

4488
CITY OF LIVERPOOL.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR


1946

BY

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Chief Assistant School Medical Officer.

R. GAMLIN, M.A., M.B., B.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.H.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officers.

G. S. ROBERTSON, M.D., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S.	ETHELWYN M. WALTERS, M.B., Ch.B. (<i>Resigned</i> 30/4/46).
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Whole-time Assistant School Medical Officers.

A. T. BURN, M.B., B.S. S. V. CULLEN, M.B., Ch.B. <i>(Resigned 30/11/46).</i> *MARJORIE M. FLEMING, M.B., Ch.B. (<i>From</i> 1/11/46). M. GODWIN, M.B., Ch.B. *CLARICE HARRISON, M.B., Ch.B. <i>(Resigned 31/12/46).</i> S. HOWARD, M.B., Ch.B. F. P. IRVINE, M.B., Ch.B. B. S. JARVIS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	*HELEN KEITH, M.B., Ch.B. J. P. KELLY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H. (<i>Resigned</i> 12/10/46). A. R. KENNEDY, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. MARY F. LACEY, M.D., Ch.B. GRACE E. McCONKEY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.C.H. *LILIAN W. MASSEY, M.B., Ch.B. *G. R. THORPE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (<i>From</i> 18/2/46).
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Part-time Assistant School Medical Officers.

ELIZABETH P. DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B.

Senior School Dental Officer.

T. H. PARSONS, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Whole-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

A. BREWER, L.D.S. †L. BROMLEY, L.D.S. E. CROSBIE, L.D.S. A. P. FINLAY, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. L. A. JONES, L.D.S. *MARIAN LEVY, L.D.S. <i>(Resigned 31/5/46).</i> F. C. LITTLETON, L.D.S. J. W. MARTIN, L.D.S. G. E. NEVINS, L.D.S.	D. B. OWEN, L.D.S. <i>(Resigned 31/8/46).</i> J. E. ROBERTS, L.D.S. <i>(Resigned 31/5/46).</i> *MISS C. C. SLOAN, B.D.S., J. TYSON, L.D.S. †I. WILLIAMS, L.D.C. L. C. WINSTANLEY, L.D.S. J. A. WOOD, L.D.S. *W. F. WREN, B.D.S.
--	--

*Temporary Officers.

†With H.M. Forces on 31/12/46.

Part-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

J. A. BELL, L.D.S.
 J. P. BLACOE, L.D.S.
 H. W. MARTIN, L.D.S.
 A. E. WATSON, L.D.S.

Part-time Specialist Officers.

D. RANKINE, M.B., Ch.B. (*Oculist*).
(Also Oculist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.)

ERNEST ALLAN, M.B., Ch.B. (*Oculist*).

COURTENAY YORKE, M.D., F.R.C.S. (*Surgeon i/c of Aural Scheme, Aurist for Crown Street School for the Deaf*).

B. L. MCFARLAND, M.D., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S.
(Orthopædic Surgeon).

F. C. DWYER, M.B., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S. (*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

F. HOPKINS, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O. (*Approved Officer for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils*).

WILHELMINA DEVLIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.M. (*Approved Officer for Educationally Sub-normal Children*).

Speech Therapist.

MISS BEATRICE C. HOPPER, L.R.A.M. (Elocn.) (*Resigned 21/12/46*).

School Nurses, Etc.

Superintendent: Miss M. L. NICKSON.

Supervisor: Miss B. M. SPELLER.

Temporary Supervisor: Miss W. K. POOLE.

Also:—49 Permanent nurses.
 17 Temporary nurses.
 6 Auxiliary nurses.
 2 Orthopædic nurses.
 14 Clinic Helpers (including 11 part-time).
 6 Dental attendants.

Chief Clerk.

MR. F. J. GELDART.

Also:—45 Clerks.

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER to the Education Authority for the Year ended 31st December, 1946.

Introduction.

The Medical Officer submits, herewith, his report on the work of the School Health Service during the year 1946.

1. During the course of the year five school medical officers were released from the Forces and of these three left the service before the end of the year. In addition, two other doctors left the service, one of whom was a senior medical officer, Dr. Ethelwyn M. Walters, who retired on the 30th April, and the Medical Officer desires to place on record his appreciation of the valuable services she at all times rendered and her keen interest in the welfare of the children during the whole of her 26 years' service.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining the service of additional medical officers to fill vacancies, only two being appointed during the year, so that at the end of the year there were only 15 whole-time and one part-time school medical officers, as compared with the pre-war number of 21. The chief reason for the resignations and the lack of applicants for appointments was the delay incurred in the introduction of the Interim Revision of the Askwith recommendations for the salaries of whole-time public health medical officers. It became necessary, therefore, to give careful consideration in administration to see that the more important aspects of the work particularly in regard to handicapped pupils should receive priority of attention.

2. Requests were made by certain Direct Grant Schools during the course of the year to carry out the medical inspection and treatment of their pupils, and though it is not the local authority's duty to include colleges not maintained by the authority, they have power to extend their scheme to such schools. The Committee considered these requests and decided that the matter should be postponed until the position with regard to the number of the medical staff of the School Health Service becomes more favourable.

3. The question of nutrition is dealt with on page 9 of this report, and it will be seen from the diagrams of the average weights that there has been a decrease during the year 1946 compared with the previous year. The school medical officers report not only evidence of sub-normal nutrition due to dietary deficiencies, but also a prevalence of mild skin eruptions and eye diseases. Mr. McFarland, the Orthopaedic Specialist, also reports a tendency to under-nourishment, and that children with postural deformities, due to fatigue which in its turn was due to under-nourishment, were more common.

The nutrition or general condition of the children is a matter of great importance to the school health service in dealing with the health of the child, and as has been pointed out in previous reports, the benefits of dining centres, school meals and milk have had an important bearing on the general health of the children during the past years, and if the nutrition of the children is to be maintained at a good standard it is necessary that properly balanced meals should also be provided in the homes.

4. Special attention has been given to Handicapped Pupils during the year in accordance with the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, for not only has a considerable amount of time been devoted by school medical officers to this aspect of the work during the course of their visits to the schools, but considerably over 700 sessions have been spent by Approved Officers in carrying out special medical examinations and investigations.

The subject of Handicapped Pupils is dealt with in detail on page 31.

5. In accordance with Section 5 (b) of Statutory Rules and Orders No. 1076, the Authority approved the establishment of a class for tuition in lip-reading for partially deaf children. In October two groups of children were selected each to attend the class for two half-days per week. All the children's hearing was carefully checked as well as their ability to lip-read before commencing the course of instruction, and, it is proposed to re-check their ability along these same lines at the end of six months' tuition. Although the class had been in operation for only a relatively short time, by the end of the year indications were that this work will prove very beneficial.

6. It has not been possible yet for the Authority to inaugurate their own scheme for Child Guidance owing to the difficulties of securing staff and accommodation. In the meantime, maladjusted children continue to be referred to the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic, and a detailed report of the work at that clinic appears on page 24.

7. Some 200 children were fortunate in the fact that a holiday in Switzerland was provided for them through the generosity of the Swiss Red Cross, details concerning their visit are given on page 37.

8. The Medical Officer is indebted to the Director of Education for information supplied with regard to certain sections of this Report, relating in particular to the work in connection with the Special Schools and the School Meals Service.

9. The statistical tables required by the Ministry of Education appear in the Appendix.

NUTRITION.

10. In last year's report the state of nutrition of school children was reviewed over a period of years and, generally speaking, the picture was one of gradual improvement. It is, therefore, a matter

for regret to have to report this year a fall in the average weights of both boys and girls except in the case of the 12 year-old girls.. The accompanying diagrams, which were included in last year's report, have been brought up to date and show the present trend.

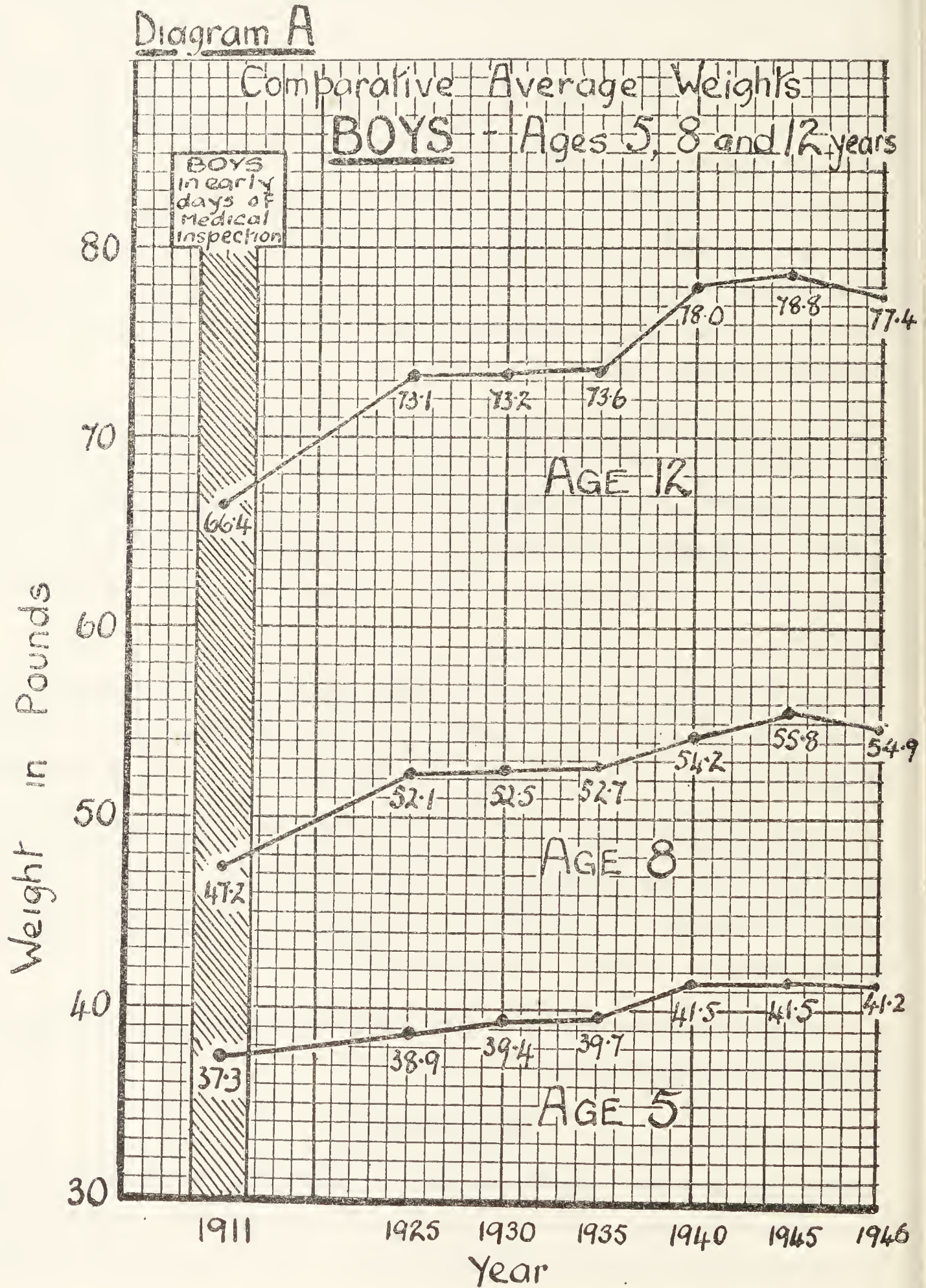


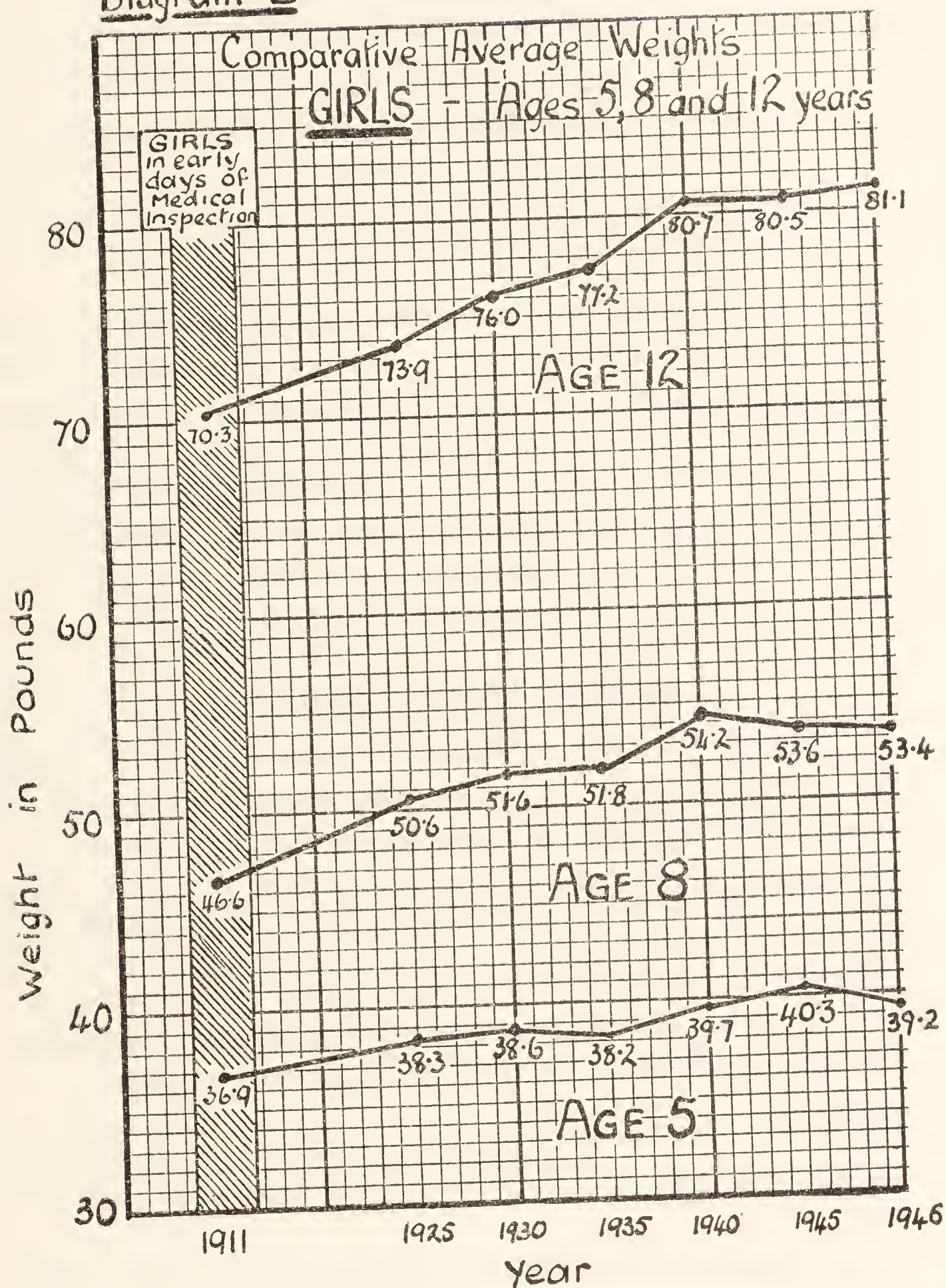
Diagram B

Table II on page 39 gives the classified results of assessment of nutrition by the school medical officers. It is to be noted that the percentage of slightly subnormal cases has increased during the year from 1.15 to 1.38.

Individual reports submitted by the doctors also indicate that they consider that there has been a deterioration in the children's general condition. One comments on the increase of cases of simple anæmia. Another mentions the finding of slightly subnormal nutrition cases even amongst those receiving school meals. Whilst a third attributes the prevalence of mild skin eruptions, blepharitis, and conjunctivitis to dietary deficiencies.

There is evidence that subnutrition is not entirely due to scarcity of food. Thus, one Head Teacher stated that quite a number of the children were required to get their own meals in their homes. Another Head Teacher made enquiries with regard to the home meals of nearly 100 children who did not take advantage of the school meals provided, and found that about half of these children had for their main mid-day meal almost solely carbohydrate, whilst only 8 could be considered as having properly balanced meals.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE.

11. **Dinners.**—Mid-day dinners (two courses) have been supplied daily for children in maintained schools throughout the year, and the demand for them has increased steadily.

The building programme planned prior to the beginning of the year has not been completed. The schemes that are not fully developed have been delayed by various factors mainly attributable to the time taken in negotiations with the many interested Departments and Ministries over details of site, plan and execution.

During the year the undermentioned kitchens and dining-rooms (prefabricated huts) and canteens on school premises have been opened, viz.:—

(a) COMBINED KITCHENS AND DINING-ROOMS (huts) at four schools with a total dining accommodation of 1,725 in two sittings.

(b) DINING-ROOMS ONLY—3 huts with a total dining accommodation of 850 in two sittings).

(c) SCHOOL CANTEENS (Dining-rooms and Sculleries) have also been provided in six schools.

12. **Kitchens.**—Dinners were supplied from the undermentioned Kitchens:—

(a) TO PUPILS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS.

1 Central Kitchen, 8 Ministry of Food Cooking Depots,
4 British Restaurants, 6 Kitchens in schools or on School
Sites.

(b) TO PUPILS IN SECONDARY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS—11 Kitchens.

(c) TO PUPILS IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS—5 Kitchens.

(d) TO CHILDREN IN NURSERY SCHOOLS AND CLASSES—1 Central
Kitchen and 1 on the school premises.

The total number of dinners (free and on payment) supplied to pupils at primary and secondary modern schools during the year was 7,398,172 (an increase of 1,885,747 on the previous year's figure).

Details regarding this service to pupils in primary and secondary modern schools in respect of a day selected at the beginning and end of the year 1946 are as follows:—

	Jan. 1946.	Dec. 1946.
No. of children present in the schools on the day selected... ..	98,208	97,458
No. of pupils provided with dinners ...	29,244	38,294
Percentage of pupils present who were supplied with dinners	29·7%	39·3%

Milk.—Since the 6th August, 1946, the Government has provided one-third of a pint free of charge to all pupils in maintained schools who desire to have milk. The total number of rations of one-third of a pint supplied to pupils at primary and secondary modern schools during the year was 19,803,899 (an increase of 2,726,681 on the previous year).

The total number of pupils taking milk in the primary and secondary schools on a selected day in October, 1946, was 109,485 (98·44% of the number of pupils present in school).

MINOR AILMENTS.

14. At the thirteen minor ailments clinics 33,326 cases were treated during the year. The treatment of these cases necessitated 278,614 attendances which average 8·4 per case treated.

The number of cases of ringworm of the scalp was 31, of which number 28 were treated by X-ray at Belmont Road Hospital under the Committee's scheme and 3 were treated elsewhere. Of the 2,997 cases of skin conditions treated at the minor ailments clinics, 2,083 were cases of impetigo.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases of blepharitis and conjunctivitis, the numbers treated being 785 and 721 respectively.

Scabies cases again decreased from 3,070 in 1945 to 2,052 in 1946. All contacts were followed-up resulting in 451 pre-school children and 483 adults also being treated.

Three treatment centres were closed during the year, leaving five still in operation.

The school medical officers who supervise the work at these scabies clinics carried out 2,756 examinations.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

15. At the periodic medical examinations of the second and third age groups the total number of children found to have some defect of vision was 3,763 (18·7 per cent.), of which 767 (3·8 per cent.) were of a minor degree and recorded for observation only. Amongst the entrants 1,274 were found to have defective vision, mostly cases of squint.

The incidence of squint amongst the three age groups inspected was 3·2 per cent. whilst that for the entrants alone was 4·4 per cent.

In addition to the cases of defective vision discovered as a result of the periodic examinations 1,580 cases were seen as "specials."

The number of new cases treated under the Committee's scheme was 2,584. The number re-examined at the clinics was 3,523. These numbers do not represent the total number of clinic attendances, since many children with amblyopia received intensive treatment, attending weekly, or oftener, over extended periods.

Under the arrangements made with the Hospitals and Port Health Committee for the treatment of squint in pre-school children, 315 children were examined by an oculist and glasses were provided in 196 of these cases.

16. Dr. Allan reports that at the clinics he takes every opportunity to stress the importance of early treatment, regular ophthalmic supervision, and, whenever possible, preventive treatment. Defects of eyesight, apart from being handicaps in themselves, are also conducive to bad posture. He emphasises the importance of dealing with cases of squint as soon as they are noticed, for a squinting eye rapidly loses its power of vision and may eventually become a blind eye through mere disuse—a condition that can be prevented by early treatment. Dr. Allan also comments on the marked diminution of serious cases of inflammatory eye conditions, which is a tribute largely to the preventive work carried out at the minor ailments clinics, and also, in a measure, to the meals and milk provided by the Committee.

17. Dr. Rankine, reporting on the work of the clinics, states that the work carried out there is evidently appreciated, as is evidenced by the co-operation of the parents of the children who attend. He also emphasises the importance of early treatment of cases of squint and states that when this obtains and the children attend for regular treatment they are rewarded in the majority of cases by developing excellent sight in both eyes.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS.

18. The organisation of the Aural Clinics has been maintained on similar lines to those of preceding years. These clinics are held at the following school clinics:—Everton Road, Blackstock Street, Norris Green, Garston and Dovecot.

During the year, 17 cases were considered by the Consultant Surgeon to require radical mastoid operations and were accordingly referred to Alder Hey Hospital.

19. Special Sessions for audiometry are held at one of the aural clinics weekly. A pure tone audiogram is made of the hearing of the children who, though not totally deaf, appear to require special educational treatment. The hearing loss of this group of children ranges between 35 and 60 decibels (Pure tone audiometer). A child with 35 decibels loss can hear and understand conversation, in a classroom, at 20 feet; a child with a loss of 60 decibels can only hear and understand at 2 feet under the same conditions.

20. The chronic suppurating middle ear still remains a grave problem. The aim in treatment is primarily preventive, which necessitates early treatment—before chronicity has occurred. Once the infection has become firmly established in the middle ear, treatment becomes more difficult and prolonged, and often the patient, despairing of cure, fails to continue treatment. During the last year nearly one-third of these patients failed to complete treatment.

The following Table gives the types and numbers of cases treated at these clinics:—

TABLE I.
Aural Clinics.

Number of children who attended for treatment ... 1,885
Total number of attendances at the clinics ... 6,099

Defect	Total	Dry or Healed	Im- proved or I.S.Q.	Exam. only No treatment given.	Still under treatment	Failed to complete treatment	Referred to Hospital or own Doctor	Referred to M.A.C. or other Clinics	Referred to School for Deaf
Acute Otitis Media	180	110	3	3	13	41	9	1	—
Suppurating Otitis Media ...	148	86	5	9	16	31	1	—	—
Chronic Suppurating Otitis Media ...	386	116	46	3	80	115	21	5	—
Mastoid Cavities	20	5	1	—	7	4	1	1	—
Middle Ear Deafness with Torrhoea	One Ear 176	—	87	8	32	47	2	—	—
	Both Ears 195	—	113	30	23	28	1	—	—
Middle Ear Deafness without Torrhoea	One Ear 78	—	41	—	24	11	—	1	1
	Both Ears 148	—	66	6	27	41	3	1	4
Inner Ear Deafness	One Ear 5	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	1
	Both Ears 20	—	2	2	3	2	—	—	11
Earache and other conditions ...	179	71	4	63	12	21	7	1	—
Nose and Throat conditions ...	350	13	89	57	31	95	54	11	1
TOTALS ...	1,885	401	458	181	271	436	99	21	18

Minor Operations ... 35
Referred to Alder Hey Hospital for Mastoid Operation ... 17

21. At the periodic examinations of the pupils the number found to require treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids was 1,609, which represents 3·0 per cent. of the children examined. The number requiring to be kept under observation was 4,652 or 8·7 per cent.

In addition, 473 children were presented as special cases, and of these 197 were found to require treatment.

22. Although there is still a long list of cases awaiting operative treatment for tonsils and adenoids, the position as compared with the past five years shows some improvement as, during the current year, 779 cases were operated upon at Alder Hey Hospital.

The children selected for treatment are admitted to hospital the day before operation and are usually discharged on the day following the operation. Occasionally, however, it is considered necessary to detain a child for three, four or even more days, and eleven such cases occurred during the year.

Arrangements are in force whereby all children following their discharge from hospital are visited at their homes by a school nurse. These visits are paid on the day after their discharge, and further visits are made if considered necessary. As a result of these visits, nine cases were re-admitted to hospital for a few days.

The following operations were performed during the year:—

Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	616
Tonsils only	...	...	107
Adenoids only	...	...	56
			<hr/>
			779
			<hr/>

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

23. The following Table shews the work carried out under the dental scheme for children attending the Primary and Modern Secondary Schools:—

TABLE 2.

	1944	1945	1946
Number of children examined in school	72,946	73,709	91,942
Number of children requiring treatment	47,418 (65·0%)	48,343 (65·5%)	58,818 (63·9%)
Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme	24,488 (51·6%)	31,422 (64·9%)	33,864 (57·5%)
Number of cases treated	22,747	27,083	33,298
Number of schools concerned	154	143	167

During the year four more dental officers were released from H.M. Forces and returned to duty, though two resigned shortly after resumption to take up posts with other Authorities. To keep the staff up to establishment, the services of the part-time officers were retained and Mr. W. F. Wren was appointed as an additional whole-time temporary officer, commencing duty in October. At the end of the year there were still two dental officers serving with H.M. Forces.

The proportion of children requiring treatment shewed a slight decrease on the figure for 1945, but the dental officers also report that the amount of treatment required per child was appreciably less than in previous years. Two factors are mainly responsible for this most satisfactory trend. In the first place, the conservative treatment which has been carried out for many years at the school clinics is undoubtedly succeeding in its object, many thousands of children having become "dental" conscious and developed the habit of attending the clinic when required. Secondly, the food factors caused by the war, such as rationing of sweets, less sticky cakes and confections, together with the increased provision of school meals and milk, and, in many cases, a better balanced diet, have resulted in cleaner mouths, with a consequent decline in the incidence of oral sepsis.

The very real benefit of the dental scheme to the children is exemplified by the fact that the number of permanent teeth requiring to be extracted was again smaller than the very satisfactory

figure reported in 1945, although some 6,000 more children were treated. From this fact it can readily be appreciated that the number of children who leave school with sound dentitions is constantly increasing.

The extension of the School Dental Service, so long and greatly required, was under active consideration at the end of the year and considerable improvements can be anticipated during the coming year.

ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

24. There were 1,448 children under supervision at the three orthopædic clinics, 671 of these being new cases, of which number 239 were seen at Walton Clinic, 221 at the Everton Road Clinic, and 211 at the Dingle House Clinic. Altogether the children made 7,909 attendances, either for examination by the surgeon or for massage or exercises.

Summary of Hospital Treatment, 1946.

Scoliosis; prone treatment	...	...	...	1
Correction of deformities of feet or toes	...	...	...	21
Treatment of torticollis by operation	...	...	...	5
Osteotomy	...	...	...	4
Other operations	...	...	...	2
Other treatment	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 36 <hr/>

During the year 5 children were provided with artificial legs and 2 children with artificial arms. In addition, various repairs to artificial limbs were arranged in 5 cases.

25. The Child Welfare Association assisted the parents in obtaining new apparatus, surgically altered boots, repairs, etc., in 1,434 instances, whilst 231 pairs of boots for wearing with apparatus were supplied. The Association likewise assisted the work by supplying cod liver oil and arranging for convalescent treatment, and their visitors also made many visits to parents in the case of 109 children regarding their non-attendance at clinics.

26. The accompanying table shews, in detail, the work carried out at the clinics:—

TABLE 3.

Cases dealt with under the Orthopædic Scheme during 1946.

Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits.										Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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27. Mr. McFarland reports that "In the first full year of peace, the orthopædic clinics became more lively than they had been for seven years. The children who had been evacuated were still returning and it was gratifying to note that their treatment had been well maintained during their evacuation. The delay in admitting cases to hospital because of requisitioning of beds persisted for a time but disappeared towards the end of the year.

"Two features were noticeable—the first was the tendency to under-nourishment. Children with postural deformities due to fatigue, which in its turn was due to under-nourishment, were more common. The second was that incredible difficulties with regard to children's footwear persisted, and I have nothing but admiration for those mothers who did, by hard work and pertinacity, manage to carry out the instructions given to them. It is to be hoped that these two factors militating against proper child health can be removed soon, or else there will be a long aftermath which will go far to negative the good that the clinics have done. That they have done good in the time that I have been associated with them can readily be appreciated if two factors are taken as an index. The first is the diminution in the number of severely crippled children. This diminution results from early detection; complete treatment and thorough after-care. The second is the decrease in the number of children suffering from rickets and a resultant and very noticeable decrease in the deformities due to rickets. Twenty years ago, of any orthopædic operating list in the Children's Hospitals, rachitic deformities would represent 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. To-day they do not represent more than 2 per cent. These results have not been obtained by any spectacular action but by the steady application of principles and careful supervision of results."

28. Mr. Dwyer reports: "During the past year I have been quite struck with the good liaison work between the clinics and the hospitals, and I think recently more and more cases have come straight from their hospital treatment to the school clinics for continuance of supervision and any necessary treatment."

UNCLEANLINESS AND NEGLECT.

29. The school nurses made 330,087 examinations of school children with regard to cleanliness, and altogether 22,413 children were found to show some evidence of verminous infection or were very dirty. In the case of 1,175 children, statutory notices were served upon the parents owing to their failure to cleanse their children after previous notification, and 480 children were cleansed by the parents and 695 had to be compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

The total number of attendances made at the cleansing stations during the year on account of verminous conditions was 19,436.

At the routine examinations in the schools 5·88 per cent. of the boys and 15·39 per cent. of the girls were found to shew evidence of infestation. The results of the nurses' cleanliness surveys shew that somewhat over 20 per cent. of the children were found at least once during the year to be infested.

30. The School Attendance Department have co-operated with the School Health Service in investigating cases of neglect referred to them. In particular they have assisted in securing the regular attendance of school children at the scabies clinics.

Mr. Keenan, the Superintendent of the School Attendance and Care Department, states that:—

“During the year 1946, 28 parents were summoned for the neglect of their children. Proceedings resulted as follows:—7 were sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from one to six months. 6 parents were fined in amounts ranging from £5 to £10. 7 placed on probation, 6 bound over, 1 case withdrawn, and 1 case dismissed.”

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

31. The percentages of unsuitable clothing and footgear amongst the children at the periodic inspections during 1946 are shewn in the following table, together with the percentages for 1938, the year preceding the war, and they make an interesting comparison:—

	Boys.		Girls.	
	1946	1938	1946	1938
Unsuitable clothing	0·78%	0·37%	0·24%	0·30%
Unsuitable footgear	2·21%	1·42%	1·23%	0·92%

The inference from this table is that there was an increase of unsuitable clothing and footgear during 1946, compared with the year 1938.

Generally speaking, the quality of footwear purchased by the average parent is very poor. Especially so are some of the coupon-free clogs with fabric uppers; when inadequate socks are worn these clogs soon cause abrasions of the feet.

Most of the cases of unsuitable clothing are met with amongst the dirty, malnourished and otherwise neglected children, who shew evidence of late hours and whose parents are of the irresponsible type.

CHILD GUIDANCE.

32. The Director of the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic has submitted the following report on the year's work:—

“During the year ended December, 1946, the number of children seen at the Clinic for advice or treatment was 222; of these 59 were referred by the School Health Service. The number is somewhat lower than for the previous year owing to the fact that for nearly three months the Clinic was without a psychiatrist.

The Types of Problem on Referral were as follows:—

Truancy and/or stealing	59
Backwardness in school work	43
Difficult or unmanageable behaviour	33
General nervous symptoms	28
Violent and aggressive behaviour	18
Enuresis	15
Wandering from home	7
For advice on type of school or employment	7
Faecal incontinence	4
Sex-play	3
Speech difficulties	3
Depression	2
	<hr/>
	222

Many of these cases were found on investigation to shew other problems and symptoms. The children brought to the clinic for truancy and/or stealing, were in many cases found to be dull and backward intellectually, and still more backward scholastically; the backwardness in school work being not only a result of the truancy but a contributory cause. In some cases, where other factors have been amenable to treatment, and particularly where home co-operation has been good, a course of special coaching in the clinic has helped to adjust the child to school. This matter of the frequency of truancy among the "C" group is one that could only be dealt with adequately by provision of educational opportunities for these children in school.

Enuresis, also, is a much more frequent symptom among our cases than the above figures show—there is, in fact, much overlap in the above classification. Those referred for backwardness in school work may be roughly divided into a larger group whose intellectual equipment is more or less below average and who are not capable of achieving what is expected of them, and a quite small but rather significant little group of children of good or even very superior intelligence who are reported as "backward at school," or even suspected of "mental deterioration." The central factor in the situation here is the extreme anxiety on the part of the parents lest the child should not, in due course, qualify for entrance to a Secondary Grammar School, which not only brings about the opposite result from that they are aiming at, but usually causes other behaviour disturbances as well. This problem appeared to derive directly from the New Education Act.

A further observation on the distribution of cases is the preponderance of children and young persons referred for behaviour problems of a type that cause inconvenience to parents and teachers, and the relatively small number for personality disorders with less exaggerated immediate social effects but which are likely to have more serious consequences in the future life of the individual.

These latter cases may easily be overlooked or their implications minimised.

Work done in the various Departments.

Psychiatric examinations	...	...	...	...	113
Psychiatric treatment interviews	...	...	...	...	558
Total					671
Psychological tests	...	...	...	...	289
Coaching	...	...	...	...	398
Play group attendances	...	...	...	...	2,373
Psychiatric Social Worker's Interviews :					
In the Clinic	...	...	...	...	392
Visits to the home	...	...	...	...	657
Visits to the school and other agencies	...	...	...	...	481
Total					1,530

The distribution of the children on the basis of intelligence shows that the largest number fall into the low average and the "Dull and backward group"—with I.Q. 80—100. This group is very largely made up of the "Stealing and/or Truancy" cases referred to above. The number with I.Q. below 50 were mostly young children, grossly retarded in development, whose parents brought them for advice.

Distribution according to Intelligence.

I.Q.	No.	
150-159	1	} 23% above average.
140-149	5	
130-139	10	
120-129	13	
110-119	21	} 30% average.
100-109	23	
90- 99	44	
80- 89	45	} 31% dull and backward.
70- 79	24	
60- 69	22	} 16% sub-normal.
50- 59	5	
40- 49	5	
30- 39	4	

Of the 222 cases under review 190 have been closed during the year and 32 are still attending for treatment.

The 190 closed cases are accounted for as follows:—

Adjusted or very much improved ...	...	...	71
Attended for advice only ...	...	...	78
Closed for lack of co-operation of parents, or Withdrawn before treatment concluded	...	...	27
Closed "not improved" ...	...	...	13
Admitted to Approved School ...	...	...	1

Some interesting follow-up work was begun towards the end of 1946, and social workers have visited cases seen in the clinic in the early months of 1945. Of the first 30 cases seen in that year 13 had been closed as adjusted or much improved; 11 of these are found to be progressing very satisfactorily; one had relapsed and been brought for further treatment, and as a result of the follow-up visit it was decided to bring back one other.

It is hoped to continue this follow-up of cases a year or more after treatment has been concluded."

33. The arrangements were continued whereby the Education Committee maintained certain maladjusted children in residence at Chaigeley School. The children admitted were those whose particular circumstances and environment called for this special type of education and guidance, and before their admission they are referred by the School Medical Officer for examination by the Psychiatrist of the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic.

At the beginning of the year the number of Liverpool children maintained was 3, and during the course of the year 2 children were discharged or had left, whilst 1 more was admitted. The number of children in residence at the end of the year was 2.

TUBERCULOSIS.

34. As a result of examinations by the school medical officers, 253 school children were referred to the tuberculosis officers for investigation. The Tuberculosis Department also supplied reports upon 736 pupils who had been reported from other sources as possible cases of tuberculosis.

Dr. J. P. Clarke, the Chief Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, has supplied the following table together with his observations thereon:—

TABLE 4.

Notifications (Liverpool) of School Children (5-15 years).

	1925	1930	1935	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Pulmonary ...	559	370	167	72	51	53	54	64	68	60	63
Non-Pulmonary ...	318	256	178	78	67	79	84	107	58	70	72
TOTAL ...	877	626	345	150	118	132	138	171	126	130	135

“The accompanying table illustrates the decline in notifications of school children in both pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis which has taken place since 1925.

“A rapid decline in incidence up to 1940 is to be noted after which the figure tends to rise until 1943—a rise no doubt associated with conditions due to the exigencies of war. After 1943 the decline is resumed towards the pre-war level.

“Improvements in standard of living, social conditions and milk grading have all played a part in bringing about this reduction of infection in childhood, though it would now appear that there is a tendency for the incidence of primary infection to be delayed more and more into adolescence and early adult life. The Tuberculosis Officers note a decrease in cases of tuberculosis of cervical glands.”

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

(a) Infectious Diseases in Schools.

35. During the year 5,214 cases of infectious disease in school children were reported to the health department. This was an increase of 1,069 cases as compared with the previous year. Of this total, measles showed an increase of 1,067 cases and whooping cough 392 cases, while a decrease of 156 cases was recorded as regards diphtheria and of 362 cases as regards scarlet fever.

No school or department of any school was closed on account of infectious disease during the year.

The arrangements made in previous years for the inoculation against diphtheria of children attending the schools were continued. Visits were paid to 99 primary and modern schools, a total of 8,653 children being inoculated at the schools, while, in addition a number of children of school age were inoculated at the various immunisation clinics held throughout the city.

(b) Vaccination.

36. The percentage of unvaccinated children amongst the routine cases examined in 1946 was 28·8.

Since medical inspection of children was inaugurated in 1909, there has been a progressive increase in the number of unvaccinated children until 1945, but during this last year there has been an improvement of 2·2 per cent.

In 1909 the percentage was	6·1.	In 1930 the percentage was	19·1.
„ 1915 „ „ „	7·1.	„ 1935 „ „ „	22·7.
„ 1920 „ „ „	not available.	„ 1940 „ „ „	23·4.
„ 1925 „ „ „	16·3.	„ 1945 „ „ „	31·0.
		„ 1946 „ „ „	28·8.

(c) Employment of Pupils.

37. During the year a total of 3,682 children (3,568 boys and 114 girls) were engaged in part-time employment. The school medical officers examined 808 children as to their fitness to undertake work before school hours and in 14 cases the undertaking of this part-time work was not recommended on medical grounds.

During the year the Sub-Committee, dealing with the licensing of children, granted 52 theatrical licences.

(d) Children and Young Persons Act.

38. In accordance with the provisions of Section 35 of the Children and Young Persons Act (1933), medical reports, for the information of the Magistrates in the Juvenile Courts at Liverpool and district, were submitted in 2,527 cases.

The Magistrates asked for special medical examinations to be carried out in 211 cases and these were undertaken by the following medical officers :—

Medical Officers to the Remand Homes...	...	...	...	...	66
Approved Medical Officers (Ascertainment of Mental Condition)	...				124
Other Medical Officers (Eye Specialists, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Ear Specialist, etc.)	...	...	...	...	21
					<hr/> 211 <hr/>

(e) School Premises.

39. The City Engineer and Surveyor reports the following alterations and improvements which were carried out on school premises :—

Sanitary improvements	...	...	...	...	...	2 schools.
Playground repairs	...	...	...	...	...	2 „
Removal of air-raid shelters	...	...	...	...	...	42 „
Re-instatement after occupation by N.F.S., Civil Defence, First Aid Posts, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3 „
Miscellaneous improvements, e.g., classrooms, lavatories, etc., doorways, stair treads, play sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4 „

NURSERY SCHOOLS AND CLASSES.

40. There are six Nursery Schools with accommodation for 490 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years, and 37 Nursery Classes in 27 schools, with 1,160 children between 3 and 5 years of age, on their rolls.

Staffing still presents difficulties, but it is hoped in the near future to obtain at least one fully-trained, certificated nursery teacher for each unit. A scheme for training nursery nurses for the National Nursery Certificate is now in operation and some seventy students are being given practical instruction in the nurseries under the Education Committee and Maternity and Child Welfare Authority.

Nursery education is increasingly popular with the parents. All the nurseries are full and most of them have long waiting lists. A further increase in the number of nursery classes in infants' departments is impractical owing to the need for places for children of school age, but the Education Committee has plans for Nursery

Schools in new housing areas, and it is hoped that as accommodation becomes available, it will be possible to open another nursery school in Norris Green, and to set up new nursery schools elsewhere in accordance with the Ministry of Education's plans for a considerable extension of nursery education.

41. The school medical officers carried out 1,494 medical examinations of these children during the year. A school health visitor visits each of the classes several times each week.

The health of the children is generally very good, and the benefit they derive from the nursery regime soon manifests itself.

The types of defects found amongst these children were similar to those found in the case of the older children. The main defects noted were as follows:—

Skin diseases ...	...	...	...	35
Minor eye infections	...	...	...	43
Squint ...	...	...	...	69
Otitis media ...	...	...	...	46
Speech defects	...	...	...	27
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	113
Orthopaedic ...	...	...	...	135

All the Committee's treatment schemes were available to these children.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Blind Pupils.

42. The total number of blind pupils at the end of the year was 24, of whom 6 were attending the Wavertree School for the Blind, 8 the Roman Catholic School for the Blind, Brunswick Road, 3 at the Sunshine Homes, and 7 at Henshaw's School for the Blind.

Partially Sighted.

43. Classes for partially sighted pupils were held in the following centres: St. Anne's C.E. School, Christian Street, Grant Road County School, Underlea Day Open-Air School, and Fazakerley Day Open-Air School. The number on the rolls at these classes at the end of the year was 52.

Mr. Ernest Allan, the Committee's Oculist, who supervises the children in the partially sighted classes, states in his report—

“To-day, the numbers of such children has shewn a marked diminution to the numbers, say, twenty years ago, and one might attribute this to the early and regular examination of the vision of all children. Even the myope is not so conspicuous as formerly. Most of the cases attending these Classes suffer from congenital defects, which will shew no material change in the future, and from myopia of a such a degree that they might, if left to do ordinary schooling, become progressively worse.”

A perusal of former reports confirms Mr. Allan's observations regarding the drop in the incidence of cases of severe defects of vision. They shew that in 1937, the earliest detailed reports available, there were 19 children in the partially sighted classes whose condition was due to neglected infective conditions of the eyes, whilst only three such cases are in the classes at present.

Mr. Allan concludes his report thus—“I should like to see a more plentiful supply of story-books, novels, etc., specially printed, so that these children, during their recreational reading at home, will be able to read much the same print as they do during school hours.”

Deaf and Partially Deaf.

44. There were 111 deaf pupils and 38 partially deaf pupils at the end of the year. Of the deaf pupils 73 were being educated at a day special school, 31 at boarding special schools, and 7 were awaiting admission to special schools. With the exception of 4 pupils who were at boarding special schools, and 3 pupils awaiting admission, all the partially deaf pupils attended a day special school.

Epileptics.

45. Four epileptic pupils were being maintained by the Authority at the Homes for Epileptics, Maghull.

Delicate Pupils.

46. The 36 places at the disposal of this Authority at the Torpenhow Open-Air School have been fully utilised. Delicate pupils have spent from three to six months in this special boarding school with much improvement to their general health.

47. The number of delicate pupils on the rolls of each of the day open-air schools at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fazakerley Open-Air School	...	...	151
Underlea Open-Air School	...	...	116
Margaret Beavan Open-Air School...	...	...	80

A number of crippled children were also in attendance at these schools as shewn in paragraph 52.

48. Miss Shepherd, the Head of the Underlea School, in her report, comments on the marked degree of debility amongst the new entrants. She also states how very backward, especially in reading, many of the children are, but that with improving health and the extra attention given by the teachers to their special difficulties they soon are able to do the work of their own age group. The Liverpool Physical Training College, Barkhill, continued to give remedial exercises, etc., to children selected by the Medical Officer, with very good results.

49. Miss Anderson, who returned to Fazakerley Open-Air School at the beginning of the year after prolonged service in an evacuated special school, reports that the school during the year gradually returned more to its original purpose, namely, the educational treatment of delicate children and partially sighted children. At the end of the year, however, there were also one class for physically handicapped children and one class for educationally subnormal children.

50. At the Alder Hey Hospital School 68 children were on the rolls at the end of the year. The two boarding special schools for physically handicapped pupils, Nant-y-Coed and Edward Malam,

closed down on the 20th July and 7th September, 1946, respectively. At the time of closure 74 children were in residence. Some of these children were considered fit upon their return to Liverpool to attend day special schools whilst the remainder were admitted to the Greenbank School of Recovery, the new boarding special school.

51. Miss Raynes, formerly Headmistress of Nant-y-Coed and Edward Malam and now Head of the Greenbank School of Recovery, reports: "It was with very mixed feelings that the children said farewell to the Nant-y-Coed and Edward Malam Schools. To many of the children these schools had been real homes for the past few years. Very many children were returning home for the first time since evacuation and, strange as it may seem, one mother failed to recognise her daughter." Miss Raynes expresses the opinion that whilst the change to the new school in Liverpool has not in any way retarded the children's physical improvement it is more difficult for them to settle down in closer proximity to their own homes.

Physically Handicapped.

52. The physically handicapped pupils in attendance at day special schools, who numbered 356 at the year's end, were being educated at the following five schools:—

Windsor Street	...	...	...	134
Margaret Beavan	...	...	...	122
Fazakerley	...	...	...	28
Underlea	...	...	...	58
Grant Road	...	...	...	14

53. Mr. McMenamin, the Acting Head of the Margaret Beavan School, reports a successful year's work. This school has at present a majority of physically handicapped pupils. He draws attention to the beneficial effect upon the working of the school that such factors as new decorating, the installation of wireless sets and a little extra help in the staff can make. The school's After-Care Committee has been re-formed and has taken up its work of assisting former pupils in employment problems and general welfare matters.

54. The accompanying return shews the results of the examinations made by the approved medical officers of children referred with various physical handicaps :—

Recommended for Day Open-Air Schools	...	...	...	...	102
Recommended for Day Special Schools for the P.H.	...	...	...	...	95
Recommended for Boarding Schools for the P.H.	...	...	...	...	57
Recommended for Boarding Special School for Epileptics	...	...	...	...	5
Postponed for further trial in ordinary schools or for treatment	...	...	...	...	30
Unsuitable for any school	...	...	...	...	8
Referred for mental examination	...	...	...	...	4
To remain in ordinary school	...	...	...	...	70
					<hr/> 371 <hr/>

Educationally Sub-normal.

55. The Authority has two boarding schools for educationally sub-normal pupils. The Crookhey Hall School, situated near Lancaster, is for 70 older boys, whilst the school for girls and younger boys is temporarily at the Colomendy Camp School.

The Authority also maintained 24 educationally sub-normal pupils at other boarding schools, 19 at Pontville Roman Catholic Special School, and 5 at the Allerton Priory Roman Catholic Special School.

There are three day special schools and three special classes for educationally sub-normal pupils with accommodation for 590 pupils. The schools are Northumberland Street, Richmond and Kilrea Road. Whilst the classes are at the Banks Road, Grant Road and Fazakerley Open-Air Schools.

56. The results of examinations made by the Approved Officers of children referred for ascertainment as being educationally sub-normal pupils are as follows :—

Recommended for Special Day School	...	...	...	...	472
Recommended for Special Boarding School	...	...	...	...	51
Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment	...	...	...	...	31
Recommended for notification to L.M.D.A.	...	...	...	...	128
To remain in Elementary schools	...	...	...	...	127
					<hr/> 809 <hr/>

Speech Therapy.

57. The treatment of children with speech defects has been carried out at St. Anne's School, Christian Street, and experience has shewn that such treatment has proved satisfactory. The classes have been so arranged as to allow more children suffering from defects of articulation of different types to have individual treatment with the result that not only have these defects been corrected more rapidly but also more cases have been carried through to a satisfactory conclusion.

During the year, 187 children were recommended from various sources for admission to the speech classes. The number of children awaiting examination by the Speech Therapist is 207.

At the beginning of the year there were 60 children in attendance at the Class. The number who were discharged cured and who left on account of being over age, etc., was 39. 20 children had been admitted to fill these vacancies up to the time of the temporary closure of the class in December.

Many of the parents have attended the classes to observe the treatment being carried out and were thus able to help the children at home, and such co-operation has proved to be most helpful.

58. There is need for more than one Speech Therapist as evidenced by the long list of cases awaiting admission. The Committee authorised the appointment of a second Speech Therapist, but were not successful in finding one. The problem of children having to travel long distances for treatment could be lessened if there was more than one therapist by holding clinics in outlying districts. This difficulty of distance particularly affects the younger children whose mothers cannot spare the necessary time to bring them. The speech defects of younger children are more easily remedied than those of older children.

Medical and Dental Arrangements.

59. The routine medical examinations and the general medical care of the special school children in the special schools outside

Liverpool is carried out by local medical practitioners, whilst specialist and dental treatment is provided either under the Local Authorities' arrangements, or, in a few instances, by special arrangements made in the areas.

All the medical and dental facilities of the School Health Service are available for the special school children.

Medical treatment under the Authority's schemes was carried out as follows:—

Defective Vision	...	...	...	76
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	6
Aural conditions	...	...	...	13

whilst children suffering from minor ailments were treated at the schools.

The following shews the work carried out by the dental staff of the School Health Service at the Special Schools:—

Number of inspection sessions	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of treatment sessions	...	...	...	...	...	53
Total number of sessions	...	...	...	...	...	65
Number of children inspected	...	...	...	...	...	794
Number of children requiring treatment	...	...	...	...	...	471 (59.3%)
Number of children treated	...	...	...	...	...	353
Number of attendances made for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	381
Number of teeth extracted	...	...	...	...	...	554
Number of teeth filled	...	...	...	...	...	78
Number of other operations	...	...	...	...	...	100
Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	...	279

VISIT OF 200 CHILDREN TO SWITZERLAND.

60. On the 7th November, 1946, 200 Liverpool school children left for a three-months' stay in Switzerland through the kindness of the Swiss Red Cross and the Swiss people.

The final selection of these children was made by the medical officers of the School Health Service. It was requested that children who had suffered as a result of the war should be selected. From a

list of several hundred children who were recommended by their teachers, the 375 most suitable children were examined for final selection by the school medical officers and 247 children were listed in order of priority, thus having 47 in reserve.

It was requested by the Swiss Red Cross that all children sent should be vaccinated against smallpox, immunised against diphtheria, and have had X-ray examinations of their chests, tuberculin skin tests and nose and throat swabs taken and examined. There was only one month in which to carry out these various treatments and examinations and the fact that all was satisfactorily accomplished is evidence of the splendid co-operation of all the Departments concerned.

Of the 200 children who left for Switzerland 60 per cent. were orphans, 50 per cent. having lost their fathers as a result of the war. Amongst the remaining 40 per cent. many had parents incapacitated as a result of war or had personal experience of incidents in air raids.

The children benefited greatly by their holiday and no doubt it has helped many of them to adjust to the new circumstances in which they find themselves as a result of the war.

W. M. FRAZER,

*Medical Officer to the
Education Authority.*

Appendix A.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	23,484
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	11,517
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	8,573
Total	...	...	...	...	...	<u>43,574</u>

B.—Other Inspections.NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS... 115,659**TABLE II.**

**CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
43,574	2,756	6.32	40,208	92.25	601	1.38	9	0.02

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR
UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, 35,378.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint).....	6,107
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).....	4
Total	6,111
Number of children for whom spectacles were :	
(a) Prescribed	4,090
(b) Obtained	4,017

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		
Received Operative Treatment.	Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.		
773	—	773

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of Pupils Inspected :—			
(a) Routine Age groups			88 589
(b) Specials			3,353
(c) Total (Routines and Specials)			91,942
(2) Number found to require treatment			58,818
(3) Number actually treated			33,298
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment			41,220
(5) Half-days devoted to	{ Inspection	905 }	Total ... 6,568
	{ *Treatment	5,663 }	
* Includes 1,919 sessions in which a Dental Officer acted as Anæsthetist.			
(6) Fillings :—	{ Permanent Teeth	9,466 }	Total ... 9,466
	{ Temporary Teeth	— }	
(7) Extractions :—	{ Permanent Teeth	12,728 }	Total ... 66,624
	{ Temporary Teeth	53,896 }	
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions			27,146
(9) Other Operations :—	{ Permanent Teeth	1,551 }	Total ... 1,551
	{ Temporary Teeth	— }	

TABLE V.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1) Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses	330,087
(2) Number of individual pupils found unclean	22,413

TABLE VI.
SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF, LIVERPOOL
on 31st December, 1946.

Name of Officer.	Permanent or Temporary.	Proportion of time devoted to		
		School Health Service.	Public Health.	
School Medical Officer.	Permanent	Not assessable	Whole- time.	
Dr. W. M. Frazer (also M.O.H.)				
Chief Assistant S.M.O.				
Dr. R. Gamlin	"	Whole-time	Nil	
Senior Assistant S.M.O.s.	"			
Dr. G. S. Robertson				
Assistant S.M.O.s.				
Dr. A. T. Burn	"	"	"	
Dr. M. Godwin	"	"	"	
Dr. S. Howard	"	"	"	
Dr. F. P. Irvine	"	"	"	
Dr. B. S. Jarvis	"	"	"	
Dr. A. R. Kennedy	"	"	"	
Dr. Mary F. Lacey	"	"	"	
Dr. Grace E. McConkey	"	"	"	
Dr. G. R. Thorpe	"	"	"	
Dr. Marjorie M. Fleming	Temporary	"	"	
Dr. Clarice Harrison		"	"	
Dr. Helen Keith		"	"	
Dr. Lilian W. Massey (Mrs. Hughes)	"	"	"	
Dr. Elizabeth P. Duncan	Temporary part-time	3 sessions 1 per week	"	
Dr. Wilhelmina L. Devlin				
Senior Dental Officer.	Permanent	Whole-time	Two dentists devote approximately 1½ sessions per week each to the treatment of ante- and post-natal cases for the Public Health Department (M. & C. W.).	
Mr. T. H. Parsons				
Other Dental Officers.				
Mr. A. Brewer	"	"		
Mr. E. Crosbie	"	"		
Mr. A. P. Finlay	"	"		
Mr. L. A. Jones	"	"		
Mr. F. C. Littleton	"	"		
Mr. J. W. Martin	"	"		
Mr. G. E. Nevins.	"	"		
Mr. J. Tyson	"	"		
Mr. L. C. Winstanley	"	"		
Mr. J. A. Wood	"	"		
Mr. W. F. Wren	Temporary	"		
Miss C. C. Sloan		"		
NOTE.—This does not include 2 Dentists who had not been released from the Forces by the end of the year.				
Mr. J. A. Bell	Temporary part-time	6 } Sessions 6 } per week 5 } 2 }		
Mr. J. P. Blacoe				
Mr. H. W. Martin				
Mr. A. E. Watson				

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF on 31st December, 1946.
 (Excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopaedic Nurses).

	Number of Officers.	Aggregate of time given to S.H.S. work in terms of whole-time officers.
School Nurses	51 Permanent 17 Temporary	68
District Nurses	Nil	Nil
Nursing Assistants	6 Temporary	6
Dental Attendants	6	6

Appendix B.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S REPORT ON PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR THE YEAR 1946.

1. Noteworthy progress has been made during the year towards the restoration in schools of physical education on a scale comparable with that of pre-war years. This is especially the case in the expansion that has taken place in the recreational activities conducted after school hours, viz., competitive games, athletics, swimming and camping.

2. Lessons in physical exercises figure on the time-table of every department, and each assistant teacher in Infant and Primary Schools, with few exceptions, is responsible for the work of his or her class. In the Secondary Modern Schools efforts are made to ensure that specially-qualified teachers conduct all formal work. A daily period for physical training is the desirable aim, and in arranging their time-tables the Heads of departments have carefully kept this in view.

The facilities for physical exercises, organised games and swimming instruction in the schools vary very widely in extent and value; while some schools which were erected immediately preceding the war have gymnasia fitted with gymnastic apparatus, possess large playgrounds, and (in some cases) playing fields, a large number of the older schools in congested areas have inadequate accommodation; and in many of them difficulties and restrictions are occasioned by small playgrounds, bad condition of the playground surface, and the absence of a hall or room with floor space suitable for group exercises.

3. **Free Transport.**

The schools in congested areas far from the playing fields present difficulties, and for these schools a scheme which allows free transport by tramcar to the playing spaces helps to alleviate if not to solve this problem. Thirty-five departments take advantage of this arrangement and groups of 50 children visit playing fields or parks during school hours each week under the care of a teacher at a cost to the Committee in 1946 of £515 0s. 0d.

4. **Swimming Instruction.**

There is close co-operation with the Corporation Baths Committee in providing facilities for school children to receive instruction in swimming, diving, etc., and to attend private slipper and spray baths. Arrangements for the use of the various establishments are determined at conferences held at the beginning of each season between the Committee's Advisers and the Heads of Schools. In 1946, 338,328 attendances were made at the Baths.

The total of attendances recorded compares well with the previous year's figure of 231,874.

5. **School Holiday Camps.**

An outstanding feature last year was the revival of interest in camping, helped no doubt by the return of men teachers from H.M. Forces; 1,696 school children enjoyed an open-air holiday—rather more than double last year's figure, when 715 scholars went to camp—aided by grants from the Education Committee at the rate of 10s. per scholar. A grant of 15s. was paid to each of 90 teachers who attended as camp leaders. An appreciable step has thus been taken towards a return to the conditions obtaining in 1939, when a record total of 6,000 elementary school children visited camps, bearing in mind especially the fact that some 700 children from Primary and Secondary Modern Schools were also accommodated at Colomendy during the Midsummer holidays.

The camp programmes in the main covered the usual activities—rambles to places of historical or scenic interest, bathing or hill-

climbing when conditions permitted, cricket and other games, etc. The rise in popularity of the Youth Hostels was maintained, and a few camps were held under canvas. Despite the difficulties incidental to rationing, food supplies appear to have been adequate and meals well varied.

Visits were paid by the Committee's Advisers and by H.M. Inspectors to the majority of the camps; their reports bear witness to the value of camping as a social activity and to the meritorious work of the teachers in charge.

As in previous years, the Committee made a grant to the Liverpool Child Welfare Association in respect of the Association's scheme for sending poor children to their Holiday Homes at Abergele; 105 children were so aided, at a cost to the Committee of £52 10s. 0d.

6. Evening Play Centres.

At the close of the year, 26 play centres were in operation. In October, 1946, a new centre was opened (with the approval of the Managers) at the St. Malachy's R.C. School; this increase in the establishment was offset by the decision taken earlier in the year to close the centre associated with the Garston C.E. School on account of dwindling attendances. The Committee's general policy in regard to evening play centres was unaffected by the decision of the Ministry of Labour to discontinue, as from the 31st March, 1946, the special 100 per cent. grant payable since 1941 in respect of those centres which were established primarily for children whose mothers were engaged in war work.

The Education Committee also helped in the formation by the Liverpool University Settlement of a voluntary play centre at York House, Nile Street, by making available equipment and furniture to the value of £35, and adding a money grant of £40 for the purchase of materials.

All centres (with the exception of that at Olive Mount Children's Homes) have been open from approximately 4-15 to 6-15 o'clock on Monday—Friday evenings inclusive, apart from holiday periods.

Light refreshments were provided in four centres. The activities pursued have ranged from modelling and story-telling for infants to country-dancing, boxing, handicrafts, etc., for older children. The popularity of all play centres has been well maintained, with the average aggregate attendance varying between 3,500 and 4,000 each evening.

7. **Evening Institutes and Youth Organisations.**

The Committee's Adviser for Evening Schools reports that facilities for physical training and dancing (folk-dancing, country dancing, and ballroom dancing) again attracted large numbers of juveniles of both sexes belonging to the social and recreative sections of the Evening Institutes. During the session 1946-47, 40 such recreative sections were conducted and, in most of them, physical training (including boxing, wrestling and "judo") and dancing were two of the most popular activities.

Dancing and physical training have also been popular activities amongst the voluntary youth organisations, and a large number of youth clubs have been assisted by the Committee to provide classes in these subjects; in fact, practically every youth organisation (to the total of approximately 300) now provides some form of physical training for its members. Many of the Evening Institutes and Voluntary Clubs make week-end arrangements for rambling, cycling and camping, in addition to the open-air games of cricket (or football), tennis, netball, swimming, etc. In addition, all the pre-Service training units—Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, Sea Cadets, Merchant Navy Cadets, Girls' Training Corps, etc.—are continuing to interest their members in all kinds of physical activities. In the Evening Institutes, Football and Swimming Leagues have been carried on with considerable success. Lack of grounds, however, hinders the activities of the Football League.

A relatively high proportion of juveniles of the 14-20 age group are thus taking part in one form or another of "keep-fit" activities.

8. Courses for Teachers.

Various Courses for the further training of teachers have been held throughout the year. These Courses are used as a means of refreshing previous knowledge, disseminating new ideas in regard to teaching and organisation and maintaining interest in and enthusiasm for physical training.

Courses were held dealing with the following activities—Scottish Country Dancing, English Folk Dancing, Swimming, Gymnastics, and Physical Education for men.

The teachers in the schools have continued and extended their excellent work in organising a wide variety of sports and athletic activities amongst the school children both in Primary and Secondary Schools.